In Manipur, on 7-1-92 the then Ministry was dismissed. On 8.4.92 a new Ministry was installed and it was asked to prove its majority before 20th April. On 20th April the trial of strength was postponed to 29th of April. On 24th of April the whole session discussing the confidence vote was postponed till the 7th May. In the meantime, the Assembly was prorogued.

Madam, if this is the way we are going to perform our politics, what is the public of India going to think of the tribe of politicians? So, through you, Madam Deputy Chairman, I wish to appeal to the Government of India and to the Assembly and the politicians of Manipur that something has got to be done to revive the faith of the people in democracy. And the immediate step that is necessary is a dissolution of the House in Manipur.

Secondly, all of us, whether in Manipur or at the Centre, must realise that in a sensitive area like the North-East we can play games like this only in order to produce more separatism and more secessionism.

Think you, Madam Deputy Chairman.

उपसभापति : राम अवधेश जी, आपका नाम मैंने 12 बजकर 44 मिनट पर पुकारा था। आप हाउस में नहीं थे। अब मुझे लंच के लिए हाउस एडर्जन करना है। आपका स्पेशल मेंशन खत्म हो गया। अभी नहीं हो सकता।

The House is adjourned for lunch.

The House then adjourned for lunch at thirty-one minues past one of the clock.

The House re-assembled after lunch at thirty-four minutes past two of the clock. *The Vice-Chairman (Prof. Chandresh P. Thakur)* in the Chair.

THE APPROPRIATION (No 2) BILL 1992
contd.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR): Shri Sunil Basu Ray to continue.

SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY (West Bengal): Sir, resuming the last evening discussion, I want to submit further that the policies being pursued by the Government are leading to privatisation and dismantling of public sector. For example, in coal sector, the Government has decided to handover the coal washeries to the private sector as also to allow the private sector to hold its own captive mines. This will disturb the entire pattern of coal industry as it is now in various industries, and disturbance in industrial relations is bound to occur. Further we see from the Bill itself that we are proceeding towards a debt trap which in embarrassing for our country. Out of the demand for Rs. 2,33,398 crores, interest and debt repayment itself comes to Rs. 1,07,039.59 crores. Over and above this, how our import-export business is going on is evident from the reply which I received from the Railway Minister yesterday. In his reply to my Unstarred Question No. 1074, and No. 1073, the Railway Minister has replied that Traction Motor (Hitachi design) has a production cost of Rs. 14.5 lakhs at the Chittaranjan Locomotive Works and the landed imported cost is Rs. 18 lakhs, and B. G. Locomotive Bogies (Trimount) cost Rs. 2.9 lakhs at Chittaranjan Locomotive Works, while the landed imported cost is Rs. 10.48 lakhs. And it has been justified that imports were resorted to as a part of the technology upgradation and balancing needs of production. There is no need of such technological upgradation because the same technology is being used in our production and in the imported rolling stock. So the reason or the logic given is not justified.

Then we see that the way our production is being planned, it is leading to reduction in manpower requirement. The total number of locos produced, both electric and diesel, was 147 in 1989-90 and in 1991-92, the total was 160, which means that only 13 locos were added to the number, and the percentage increase over the target was 7.4. But during this period, there was reduction in manpower by 529. So, the claim of the Government that they are developing technology etc., is all baseless.

Unless rural economy develops, no economy can become healthy. Unfortunately, rural sector in the matter of land reforms

[Shri Sunil Basu Ray]

is being neglected in this scheme. Employment generation everywhere is also at a low ebb. Social welfare programmes are being abandoned. Public sector units, whether sick or not, are being regularly abandoned through BIFR or through other agencies. As a result, people's misery is growing and poverty is persisting. Even the public distribution system which could give some relief to the poor, is not taking off in the farthest villages. High prices of essential commodities is causing misery to the poor and the middle-classes. Inflation and rise in price has reached a figure of 13 per cent plus. In such a situation we find that the Government has virtually frozen the wage increase. They have set up a committee under Mr. H. N. Ray to review, study and examine the structure of emoluments of the employees in the Central Government, public sector enterprises and in the nationalised banks etc., *inter-alia,* for enabling the Government to take a view on the wage pattern of the employees in order to evolve a formula for payment of dearness allowance. This has been hanging on for months together and this is agitating the workers also. But the Government is dragging its feet over the issue. This has also engaged the working classes and they are likely to go on a strike over all these issues. Now, Sir, if the Government does not react ....

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR) : Mr. Ray, you will have to be brief. Only thirteen minutes were left.

SHRI SUNIL BASU RAI : I am concluding just now. Therefore, unless the Government reacts, takes redically different steps, the situation will become further difficult. Our poor people, Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes women, children and other weaker sections, in the countryside, are the worst sufferers. Something must be done for them. The present policy is a proven failure. Then, what is the alternative ? All patriotic forces must unite. There is the alternative. If the Government does not yield. the working class has decided to observe a nation-wide general strike, in protest against the Government's policies, on 16th June, 1992. Under these circumstances, I hope, the Government will change its policies. If it does not, it is for the Government to protect itself. People will not allow the Government to follow these policies, to carry on with these anti-people policies. With these observations, I oppose the Appropriation Bill. Thank you.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR) : Shri Kamal Morarka. He is not here. Shri Hanumanthappa. He is also not here. Shri Jadhav.

SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV (Maharashtra) : Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Appropriation (No. 2) Bill, 1992. While participating in this debate, I would like to bring to the notice of the House some of the important features outlined in the Budget.

Our economy is growing fast. Internationally, our Budget has been appreciated, We have given a new direction. We have given a new thrust to our economy. In this connection. I hole heartedly congratulate our Finance Minister. He has taken tremendous initiatives to show to the nation and to the world how India can progress. As a Congressman, as a Member of Parliament from the ruling party, I laud the intentions of the Government. After about two years of misrule by Opposition Governments, our Government came to power. There were lot of problems before us.

When our Government came to power. there was a total collapse of the economy. India was on the verge of losing its credibility in the international market. It was very difficult to manage the economy of the country. At such a time, our hon. P. V. Narasimha Rao, took charge as the Prime Minister of the country. After the tragic assassination of our beloved leader, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, the entire country, the whole world, was sceptical as to how India would survive, how was it going to manage its economy.

We have a number of problems before us. Our country is vast. Our population is much more vast, in proportion to the size of the country. Our problems are much more complicated. The very basis of our problems, the root cause of our problems,

lies in our independence struggle. Mahatma Gandhi, the Father of the Nationl accepted the philosophy of co-existence, *Satya, Ahisa, Paramo Dharma.* We accepted the creed of secularism. India is a country with no religion, with no region. We are Indians first and then only we must think about other things.

Sir, our great leaders, our illustrious leaders, Mahatma Gandhi, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, later on, our distinguished Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, and, afterwards, Rajivji, all tried their level best to make India a united and strong country, militarily, agriculturally, financially and industrally so that it can enter the Twenty-first Century with confidence. I must acknowledge and appreciate the achievements of our Government. Our senior esteemed friend, Shri Gurupadaswamy, is sitting here. He knows that we started the First Five Year Plan with an investment of Rs. 4500 crores and now we have reached the Eighth Five Year Plan. The documents of the Eighth Five Year Plan have not come before the Parliament for discussion but the allocation for this Plan will be something like 700 to 800 crores of rupees. The question is, India has to come to stay. If we take the entire amount which we have spent on all the Five Year Plans, it may come to five to six lakh crores of rupees and with this money having been spent we must assess our achievements, that is very important. We must assess what development we have done in the field of agriculture, industry.

Sir, my friends from the opposition parties have, on several occasions, pointed out about corruption that is prevalent in our country. There is no doubt, corruption is there. Even our late Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, said publicity that out of one rupee only 15 to 16 paise are really spent on development works, and rest of the money goes as a wasteful expenditure. Sir, corruption is the evil force in our country. It is there anywhere and everywhere. Whether you go to a State Government office or a Central Government office, the common man's work is not done without giving some money. Unless they give some money, their work is not done. Corruption is the root cause of all the evils if our country. If we can eliminate corruption, 70 to 80 per cent of our problems will automatically be solved. So, the question is that our people must change their attitude.

While supporting this Appropriation Bill, I would like to know, out of this amount of Rs. 3,33,398.91 crores how much amount will be spent on development works, what is the share of have-nots and what is the share of those who are already rich ?

Sir, I come from Maharashtra. You know the problems of Bombay. The population of Bombay is 1.25 crores. Out of this 25 per cent lives in slums. A few years back, our friend from the opposition, a paper tiger, the chief of Shiv Sena, had said that he would provide accommodation for 50 lakh people. He could make those promises because he knew that his party was not going to come into power. In such a situation, it is easy to give promises, but it is not so easy to solve the problem in real terms. Therefore, it is the responsibility of all those representatives of the people whether in the Parliament or in the Assembly, to give a serious thought to this housing problem. Our Government has started a National Housing Bank. They have appealed to the people who are having black money to deposit money in these Banks and get some concessions in income-tax. That is a good step taken by our Government, but, at the same time, I must point out that if the people are not paying income-tax and there is more and more generation of black money, that means something is wrong with our taxation policy. *(Interruptions)*. First Bombay, then Madras and Pondicherry comes last.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR): Jadavji, you have to be brief because the total time left is 13 minutes and already a good part of it has been spent. I know you can contribute a lot, but there is the time-constraint.

SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV: I can sit down now, there is no problem.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR): I am not suggesting that.

SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV : Sir, normally my party also does not give me time. They had not given me time for the President's Address and then the railway budget. Mr. Ahluwalia has told me . . .

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR) : That is internal to the party.

SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV : But now you should also consider that I have spent 10 years in this House and so I must be given some five or 10 minutes more.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR) : Okay, please continue.

SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV : Sir, I wanted to point out one thing. Out of the total of Rs. 2,33,398.91 crores, how much money have they provided for agriculture and rural development ? I will give you the figures—these are very wonderful figures. For agriculture the allocation is Rs. 2,527 crores—I am giving round figures. Then, Other Services, Rs. 370 crores; Department of Agricultural Research, Rs. 375 crores; Department of Animal Husbandry, Rs. 315 crores. Sir, when we consider the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, our cattle population itself is so vast but we are spending only two paise per head of cattle. We want to have a White Revolution in the field of animal husbandry and dairying but we are having such a meagre allocation. I request the hon. Finance Minister to make a bumper allocation for animal husbandry and dairying, at least a jump from Rs. 315 crores to Rs. 3,000 crores, so that we can do something for scientific work in animal husbandry and dairying.

Then, on the Department of Fertilizers we are spending Rs. 7,221 crores. The Finance Minister has declared in his speech that they are going to give an amount of Rs. 5,000 crores as subsidy. As I am one of the members of the Fertilizer pricing Committee, I do not want to give all the findings of our Committee unless the report comes out, but one thing I wanted to tell you is that price rise is being effected by the Government continuously. One factor is very important here. The cost of naptha was Rs. 90 per tonne in 1980. Today it is more than Rs. 800. The cost of gas was some Rs. 20 per cubic metre. Today it is more than Rs. 220. That means this price increase is done by the Government. When they are supplying the raw material to the fertilizer industry, it is not possible for the fertilizer industry to pay such a high amount for the raw material. Now you are giving this subsidy to the fartilizer industry. It is none of the concern of the farmers. You are increasing the prices of the raw materials, and when the prices of the raw materials are increased, then the industry will be put to loss, and to make good that loss you are giving the subsidy. Now, you have increased the transport charges. Right from 1980 till today, transportation and freight charges by the railways have been on the increase. I appeal to the Government through you, Sir, that they must have some policy for 10 years saying that the transport charges should be this much, gas charges should be this much and naphtha charges should be this much so that there would not be any price rise in fertilizers and the farmers of this country would get the benefit of stable prices in fertilizers which are most required.

The second important thing is—and I have stated it several times before—India's economy is an agro-based economy and the heads of the economists and policy makers are full of American thoughts and they think on the lines of western countries and give more priority to industry. So, if you take all the figures together, out of the Rs. 2,33,000 crores of expenditure not more than Rs. 25,000 crores are allocated for agriculture, rural development, rural welfare, rural education, roads and all these things, which means that only 12 to 15 per cent of the budget is spent for the development of 90 per cent of the geographical area and 70 per cent of the population of the country. This is not fair. This policy has got to be changed totally. The only reason why our voters go from one party to another is because no party has

taken care of them. In the preamble to our Constitution we have assured the people of this country that we will give social and economic justice to the common man of this country.

SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA (Bihar) : Security from cradle to grave.

SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV : But even then we could not fulfil that promise. That is not a very good, healthy sign of growth of democracy.

I appreciate tht liberalisation policy the Government of India has adopted. They are thinking that some multinationals will come, that some other people will come, that they will bring industries and that they will plan industries here. I don't agree with that. Sir, no businessman, no merchant, either Indian or any other, will come unless he gets profit. If anybody comes, he comes for exploitation. You have to stand on your own feet. Unless you stand on your own feet, your country will not prosper, That is the main thing.

We have accepted the philosophy of indigenisation, and from that point of view India could develop so many technologies, nuclear technology, space technology, even rocket technology. We have seen the new aircraft which are coming, the light combat aircraft, in Bangalore. There are so many fields in which we have made a tremendous progress. So, it is not at all impossible for our country to become self-reilant at the same time.

I also have a feeling that now the world economy has totally changed. It does not remain the same unlike the Indian economy which is alone. It has become an international economy. We must take help from international financial agencies for reconstruction of this country, but we should not submit our independence, we should not submit our self-respect for the cause of taking loans from any international financial agencies. That is what the policy-makers should take care of.

Another things is that when 70 per cent people are living in the rural areas, definitely 70 per cent of tht Budget allocation should be for the development of the rural areas and the rural population. Then we can fulfil the dreams of Mahatama Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru. There should be decentralisation of industries also. There is mushrooming growth of industries in Bombay and other urban centres. If you go to Delhi and outside, you will see a large number of slums. In Madras, of course, there is no slum. But in big cities where industries are coming up, slums are also coming up. If you decentralise industrialisation, there will be no question of slums.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR) : He has given a clean chit to Madras. Is he correct ?

SHRI TINDIVANAM G. VENKATARAMAN (Tamil Nadu) : Yes, Sir, it is correct. There is no slum in Madras.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY (Pondicherry) : When the DMK Party was in power, a lot of slums had come up there.

SHRI TINDIVANAM G. VENKATRAMAN : He has started quibbling as usual.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR) : Don't be provoked by Mr. Narayanasamy.

SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV : Sir, definitely there were more political slums in Madras—I agree with that—but not economic or other slums.

When we are considering how many people are living in slums in the urban areas, at the same time if you go to any village, you may find two or three good houses, but the rest of the Houses are mud houses and huts. They are also like slums. That means more than 70 per cent of the population living in the rural areas, is also living in slums. We are having an urban housing policy which is a good thing. At the same time, it is more important that we must have a separate housing policy for the rural areas, for the people who are living there, who are contributing a lot for the development of our economy.

[Shri Vithalrao Madhavrao Jadhav]

Our economy basically is an agro-based economy. We are having a tremendus land mass. We are second only to the USA in the world because no other country is having such a large land mass in the world. Even China which is having one-third land mass compared to us, is producing 400 million tonnes of foodgrains. The climate is also very adverse there. But we are not creating any infrastructure. We are not giving any facilities to the farmers. If we provide the facilities to the farmers, within a period of ten years India will be self-reliant. Today it is self-reliant, but we can export 50 per cent of our foodgrain products, and we can get a lot of foreign exchange.

उपसभाध्यक्ष (प्रो० चन्द्रेश पी० ठाकुर) : थोड़ा सहयोग करिये ।

श्री विठ्ठलराव माधवराव जाधव : दो मिनट में समाप्त कर रहा हूं ।

3.00 P.M.

Sir, another thing is, I would like to state one an important point. One thing is, right from the First Five-Year Plan till today we spent only Rs. 4,500 crores on irrigation. Actually we should have complated all irrigation projects which are ongoing in the country. Especially in Maharashtra a large number of projects are awaiting sanction from the Water Resources Minister.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. CHANDHESH P. THAKUR) : What about Bihar ?

SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV : In Bihar also.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR) : In Bihar, there is no project which has ever been completed.

SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV : That is right. I can assure you, Sir, if you exploit your water resources to the full in Bihar, Bihar can supply foodgrains to the entire country. That potential is there in Bihar. But, I don't know whether it is a cultural effect or there are some orthodox people who do not allow the common people to work. That s why Bihar is not progressing. We have to change the social, cultural, economic and agricultural status of Bihar. That is the need of the hour.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR) : I hope the Government of Bihar and the Government of India, both, are listening to you.

SHRI KAMAL MORARKA (Rajasthan) : What does he mean by cultural effect ?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR) : He means growth.

SHRI VITHALRAO MATHAVRAO JADHAV : Cultural effect means that there are some people there who are very big landlords and on the other side there is the labour class. They are treating them as their slaves. That culture in Bihar should change. It is not there in Maharashtra, where you and myself reside.

This morning my friend, Shri Jagesh Desai, and myself brought to the notice of the House the conditions of severe drought in different parts of the country. In Maharashtra alone, 27,000 villages are in the grip of serious drought and famine situation.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR) : Has it reached the famine stage ?

SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV : Yes, Sir. Moreover, there is a problem of drinking water for the large rural population. There is shortage of fodder supply for the animals. Agriculture has totally collapsed. We did not get the Kharif crop at all and wherever irrigation facilities are there, we could get the Rabi crop from there only. So, Maharashtra is facing the worst situation.

Thrice a request has been made to send a survey team there to assess the magnitude of the situation. Today morning I have raised this issue saying that the file is lying with the Agriculture Ministry for 15 days. Even now a decision has not been taken. I request the Agriculture Minister to clear

that file. I also request the Finance Minister, who also hails from Maharashtra, to immediately depute his representative to assess the situation there. The situation is very serious not only in Maharashtra, but in Gujarat, Rajasthan, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and Tamil Nadu also. Sir, I may point out wherever the drought and famine conditions prevailed and wherever it was a question of natural calamity the whole House supported the cause of humanity, the cause of human survival.

Sir, though I have been given an opportunity to speak at the fag-end, yet I am very thankful to you for giving me this opportunity. Since Mr. Ahluwalia had requested me to speak on this, I must thank him also.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR) : You spoke very well.

Morarka Ji, your name was called. You can speak after Dr. Thulasi Reddy speaks. We have already exceeded the total time allotted for it. You take only three minutes so that Kamal can also speak a little bit.

DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY (Andhra Pradesh) : I would like to emphasise only two issues, which are the basic needs of each and every individual. These are (1) food materials and (2) drinking water. Because of the wrong policies of the Government the production of food materials ....

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR) : Sometimes you must say there is some good in the Government also.

DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY : The production of foodgrains in the last Rabi and Kharif seasons has come down by 5 per cent. As far as Andhra Pradesh is concerned, the shortfall is of 20 lakh tonnes. This shortfall is in one State. In addition, so many other States—Maharashtra, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Orissa, some districts in Madhya Pradesh, some districts in Andhra Pradesh—are reeling under severe famine conditions. According to Government reports, the buffer-stocks have dwindled. According to reports as on 1st December, 1991, the stock was 14.60 million tonnes, whereas on the same day the previous year it was 18.45 million tonnes. We can clearly see the shortfall in the buffer stocks. On the one side the Government is trumpeting about the public distribution system but on the other side in many of the States the PDS has collapsed.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR) : We are going to have a full debate on that immediately after this Bill.

DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY : I am only saying it in passing.

For example, in the year 1991-92 the allocation for PDS was Rs. 2850 crores but in the present year it is only Rs. 2500 crores. So on the one side you have reduced the budget allocation and on the other side you are talking too much about the PDS system.

As far as the State of Andhra Pradesh is concerned, we used to supply 25 kgs of rice per family every month.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR) : The Minister in charge of Civil Supplies and Public Distribution is from Andhra Pradesh.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : I am listening.

DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY : We used to supply rice at Rs. 2 per kg. Now the present Government is supplying at Rs. 3.55 per kg. Not only that, they have reduced the quota from 25 kgs of rice per family to 16 kgs of rice per family. In the last month they have not supplied even 16 kgs of rice per family ; instead they have given only 12 kgs of rice per family. So in the coming months, my apprehension is that the Government may not be in position to supply even a single kg of rice through the PDS system. So this is the situation so far as Andhra Pradesh State is concerned.

[Dr. Narreddy Thulasi Reddy]

Then coming to the supply of drinking water, it is still more horrible. There are some places where the women folk have to walk miles to fetch a pot of drinking water. There are some places like Rayachoti in my district in Andhra Pradesh where people are buying drinking water. There are some places where people are taking bath once in a week. Even after 44 years of independence this is the situation regarding drinking water problem in our country.

The Government is not in a position to complete the PWD schemes. There are some PWD schemes which have been started but not yet completed. Work on some schemes is going on at snail's pace. The groundwater table has gone down. The bore wells have dried up. The open wells have dried up. The summer is at its peak The Government is not in a position to supply drinking water. So I request the Government to allocate some extra funds immediately for solving the drinking water problem and for improving the PDS so that the State Government can stop starvation deaths and deaths caused due to drought. Thank you, Sir.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR) : Thank you very much. Shri Kamal Morarka, please be brief.

SHRI KAMAL MORARKA : Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I just want to touch two or three points. I thank Mr. Jadhav from the other side for expressing what would be easily my thoughts at the present direction of the economic policy which will negate self-reliance, indigenisation, foreigners coming up and exploiting. These are the very things which we have ben talking of for months and months. I am happy that such thinking is also within there the Congress party. I do hope that the Government will take note of it.

Sir, I don't want to increase the scope of the discussion to the present economic policy. Everybody knows the working of our economic policy. I think now 2½ months have passed since the Budget has been passed by the Parliament. I just want the Minister of State for Finance to take note of a few points by way of evaluation as to what has happened in this period

We had said at that time that inflation can undo all that you are trying to do. Your stabilisation programme, structural adjustment programme, will all go haywire if you cannot arrest inflation to a single digit. Sir, despite Governemnt's best efforts, the inflation even now is 13.3 per cent. It is a serious matter. I do not know what the Finance Ministry's game-planning. But I say whatever Plan they have made and whatever Plan they want to carry through, whether we like it or not, even to make that successful, unless you bring the inflation down to 9 per cent, to a single digit, your programme will fail and the country will be in a bigger trouble. We will not be happy to see that the Government has failed. After all, the price of failure has to be paid by all.

Sir, on the budget deficit, after the budget was presented, certain figures have come to light. Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I would like to draw your attention also. The budget deficit figure on the 20th December was Rs. 15,547 crores and within a week on 31st December, at the end of the calendar year, it came down to Rs. 11,503 crores. It came down by Rs. 4000 crores in one week. Probably, somebody can explain that to me. But within a week after that, it went back to Rs. 16,000 crores. I do not say that these figures are fudged. I do not say that. There may be a lot of accounting practices. But definitely, these figures deserve explanation. December 31st is an important date. Sir, February 29th is a more important date for the Finance Minister and therefore, the February 29th figure shows even a steeper decline. I have got the quarterly figures of budget deficits for the last four or five years. You will be surprised to know that in the two years which are much maligned by this Government, 1989-90 and 1990-91, the year-end budgetary deficit figures are slightly higher than the quarterly figures which is how they should be. The quarterly figures are tentative and at the year-end, you try to consolidate and you find the deficit slightly higher. This year, the quarterly figures are much higher and the year-end figure suddenly dramatically

drops. I need not say that it is my apprehension that after February 29th, the figure must have again gone up. I am not saying this to run down the method of presenting statistics. I am on a much more serious problem and that is the monetisation of this deficit. In 1990-91, the monetisation was 23 per cent and in 1991-92, the monetisation is 28 per cent. The target given by the Finance Minister was 20 per cent. This explains inflation. We do not have to go around trying to find out why inflation has occurred. The reason for inflation is in the figures themselves. Unless the budget deficit is controlled, unless the monetisation of that deficit by the RBI is controlled, I am afraid, you will not be able to control inflation. So, I want to draw the attention of the Finance Minister to this and to ask him to take serious steps to stop this profligation. If this kind of money supply goes on, it is difficult to control inflation.

That leads me to the next question. Your promise to the IMF was to contain the money supply at 11 to 13 per cent. It is even now reigning at 19 per cent. I understand that the IMF now does not want to part with the second tranche of their loan because these conditions have not been met. They also want the Exit Policy and the Narasimham Committee report to be implemented. My request to the Government, at this stage, is this. We have taken the first tranche of the loan. Our BoP position is much better, thanks to whatever steps you might have taken. At this time, let us all sit together and see whether we can do without the second tranche because I do not think that this country can afford the Exit Policy ; I do not think the Narasimham Committee report is a very wise decision to implement in full because that will be negating what Mrs. Indira did in 1969 After years and years of understanding and study, she nationalised banks. All right, banks as such may have a lot of things to be corrected. I am not on that. Please definitely take corrective measures. But implementing the Narasimham Committee report would undo what Mrs. Gandhi did to a large extent. And not only that. We will add problems which will be difficult to cure or rectify for the next five or ten years. I think the time has come when you can rest on your laurels, if I can call it that. You have done something. The BoP has improved. You have breathing time. Postpone the Exit Policy and the Narasimham Committee report. Postpone the second tranche. Let us not go too much into the tunnel of the World Bank and the IMF. Not as a matter of confrontation or saving the economic sovereignty, etc. I am not on that subject. I am on a very, very pragmatic and practical note. Let us not take a loan if we can do without it. After all these things, I do not think it is a very wise thing. It increases our debt burden. I request the Finance Minister. On inflation, on monetisation of deficit, take stringent measures. On IMF loan have a second thinking.

The only point that Mr. Yadav raised is on foodgrains and drought conditions. In the morning, I tried to mention in the Zero Hour. In Maharashtra, I went to a place called Panvel which is 50 kilometres away from Bombay. You can hardly call it an interior. I have found there that the price of 'jowar' which was one rupee a kilo is two rupees a kilo now. I was horrified to know that. It is the staple food of the poorest of the poor. And if this is the condition near Bombay, I shudder to think of what is happening in the rest of the country. (*Interruptions*). I shudder to think of that. We will have starvation problems. We will have massive problems. That reminds me that the wheat procurement this year has been the lowest in the last 20 years. In living memory, I do not know, procurement price is Rs. 280, the market price is five rupees a kilo. Who will give you wheat ? I shudder to think, God forbid, if our monsoon fails, you will not have wheat for your consumption. Four years ago, in spite of two consecutive failures of monsoon under Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, you could manage this system because you had a buffer stock of foodgrains because of an excellent procurement. What will you do now? We are at the end of the tether ? Please don't take these things lightly. Take it on an emergency footing and do something about it. Thank you.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR) : Let us hope

[Prof. Chandresh P. Thakur]

the monsoon is good and the procurement is good. Mr. Minister, will you like to reply now ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE) : Hon'ble Vice-Chairman, Sir, I am thankful to all the hon. Members who have participated in this discussion. Sir, this hon. House is aware of the state of economy we inherited. Sir, we were ....

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR) : I hope Mr. Kamal Morarka is listening to this point.

SHRI KAMAL MORARKA : I don't hear the old records again and again.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR) : Sometimes it is pleasing to hear.

SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE : Sir, with all humility and due regard to Mr. Kamal Morarka, I would like to say that we were practically on the brink of disaster.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR) : In spite of him ?

SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE : The state of our economy was in a bad shape. Our balance of payments position was very bad. We could have hardly survived for fifteen days. It was such a state of affairs. Then we came out with the new economic measures spelt out by the hon. Finance Minister in his Budget speech last year as well as this year also. Then we have come out with the Industrial Policy and various steps have been taken. This House is aware of those measures. Sir, this House has discussed on various occasions the reforms which have been initiated by the Government. These were designed to meet the immediate crisis as well as to create conditions for increase in production and growth through delicensing, rationalisation and investment policies. Sir, Mr. Kamal Moraka, Mr. Jagesh Desai, and others, have spoken about inflation and high prices. Very honestly, I share their concern. The Government is worried on this count and we are just awaiting the results of the economic measures which we have taken. It will take some time. We want to reduce the fiscal deficit by reducing the Government expenditure, by increasing our revenue by better taxation and by way of better collection of taxes and all that. Sir, on this count, we are worried. But, at the same time, we are taking measures. During the debate, some speakers have spoken about less allocation for education. I am myself a person connected with education. This is my own area because I come from a tribal constituency. I have a concern for that. This country is basically committed to education and that too, primary education. So this is the concern of the Government. I would like to state here, Sir, that the Centre and the States, both are engaged in the educational activities and there has been an increase in the allocation. The total allocation for education in 1992-93 is Rs. 951 crores as compared to Rs. 904 crores in the revised estimates for the year 191-92. We would certainly try to do more if it becomes possible to do so later.

Some Members had spoken about the ban on recruitment. I would like to tell this hon. House that there is no ban as such on the Government recruitment. The Government used to need about one lakh people for employment in Government services. We tried to cut down the Governmental expenditure and we had reduced that expenditure to a great extent. The new Economic Policy, ... *(Interruptions)* ....

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR) : Are you reducing the number of posts or the cost of recruitment ?

SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE : We have reduced the number of posts. The new Economic Policy, the new Commercial Policy and all other measures, we have taken. A few posts have become surplus in some Departments like DGTD, the Commissioner of Cement Industries, but they are likely to be absorbed at some other place. There is no retrenchment as such. We expect this approach will reduce the

increase in the staff expenditure without any blanket ban on recruitment.

About the share market fluctuations a lot of Members have made certain points. The hon. Finance Minister had already made a statement. There was a discussion in this House and he had answered all the questions on that issue. So I need not take the time of the House answering questions regarding stock market fluctuations. Mr. Chimanbhai Mehta .... *(Interruptions)* ....

SOME HON. MEMBERS : We are satisfied.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR) : Let him do his job. It is a matter of record.

SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA : Mr. Chimanbhai Mehta is not present.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR) : No ; what he said is on the record.

AN HON. MEMBER : His message will be passed on to Mr. Mehta.

SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE : I would like to say that this Government is sensitive in the matter of education, employment, vocational education and is taking all care.

Jagesh Bhai has spoken about the rising prices. I have already replied to that point.

SHRI JAGESH DESAI (Maharashtra) : Sir, because the prices of Jowar, Bajra and *Makka* are going up by 3 to 5 per cent, I want to know whether they are going to procure these items and give them to the most vulnerable sections of the society.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR) : They are trying to procure everything.

SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE : My friend, Kamaluddin Ahmed, would be replying to the debate and in that he may point it out.

About dry fruits, he has mentioned in the OGL list. I will convey your suggestion to the hon. Commerce Minister, Shri P. Chidambaram.

Dr. Jain had made certain points regarding health, education and interests of the poor people. Sir, this Government has not neglected the interests of the poor people. Let me remind this House that the hon. Finance Minister in the last year's Budget allocated 50 per cent of the Budget estimates for rural India. So we have not neglected the interests of the poor people and rural areas of this country.

Dr. Ratnakar Pandey has raised certain points regarding the small industries. The Government is encouraging the small industries. These industries are making a lot of exports. Sir, the Government is aware of that. Ratnakar Pandeyji wanted Sanskrit to be telecast like Urdu. His point is well taken and it will be conveyed to the Ministry concerned. He said that there was no Vishwa Hindi Sammelan after 1980 and he wanted a Vishwa Hindi Sammelan to be held. I would like to discuss the matter with him. He is not here. We may be able to organise a Vishwa Hindi Sammelan with the help of all others. Shri Ray has raised the point of rural economy. The Government is aware of the rural economy. The Government really wants to give more to the rural areas. There is a point about the Ray Committee regarding the public sector undertakings and banks and their functioning.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR) : Dr. Pandey has come. But he will know about your reply from the printed records. You don't have to go over it again.

SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE : I would like to tell Mr. Ray that this Ray Committee has already started working and it will finish its work within three months. Shri Vithalrao Jadhav had made so many points. He referred to the gross disbursement of Rs. 2,33,399 crores. The net provision is Rs. 1,19,087 crores after setting off recoveries, etc. He said that nothing is

[Shri Shantaram Potdukhe]

provided in the Central Budget for animal husbandry and agriculture. They are essentially State subjects. The Annual plan of the Centre, States and Union Territories for 1991-92 provides Rs. 14,757 crores as compared to Rs. 12,381 crores in the 1990-91 Plan for agriculture and rural development, special area programmes, irrigation and flood control. This year the allotment is more, not less. Dr. Thulasi Reddy has spoken about the collapse of PDS in Andhra Pradesh. My friend, Mr. Kamaluddin Ahmed, will reply to that.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR) : He will take it up when the discussion on his Department comes.

SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE : I have already replied to the points of inflation and other things raised by Kamalji. Now, I request this House to return the Bill. Thank you.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR) : The question is :

> "That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 1992-93, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR) : Now we shall take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

Clauses 2 to 4 and the Schedule were added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE : Sir, I beg to move :

That the Bill be returned.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

DISCUSSION ON THE WORKING OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

The VICE-CHAIRMAN PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR) : Now we will take up discussion on the working of the Ministry of Civil Supplies, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution. Mr S. S. Ahluwalia. (*Interruptions*). Where is he ?

SOME HON. MEMBERS : Please call another speaker.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR) : He has come.

श्री सुरेन्द्रजीत सिंह अहलुवालिया (बिहार) : उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं नागरिक आपूर्ति, उपभोक्ता मामले ... **(व्यवधान)**

SHRI RAJ MOHAN GANDHI : Sir, he should apologise for not being present in the House.

SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA : I am very sorry. I thought that you will take a little more time to pass this Bill.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR) : The House is waiting eagerly to listen to you.

श्री सुरेन्द्रजीत सिंह अहलुवालिया : उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं नागरिक आपूर्ति, उपभोक्ता मामले और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्रालय जैसे अति महत्वपूर्ण मंत्रालय के कार्यकरण पर चर्चा में भाग लेने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूं ।

महोदय, हर साल हम लोग साधारण बजट वित्त विधेयक विनियोग विधेयक को चर्चा करके पास करते हैं पर विभिन्न विभागों के या विभिन्न मंत्रालयों के कार्यकरण के बारे में या उनकी कार्य-प्रणाली के बारे में चर्चाएं बहुत कम होती हैं और खासकर के महोदय बजट तो हर बार पास होता है पर कभी वित्त विभाग के कार्यालय पर या कार्य-प्रणाली पर चर्चा नहीं हुई है । यहां महंगाई के बारे में तो रोज चर्चा होती है कि महंगाई क्यों हो रही है पर नागरिक आपूर्ति और उपभोक्ता मंत्रालय के मामले में चर्चा होनी महत्वपूर्ण है ।